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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

SEIZE WHEAT IN CANADA FOR ITALY

Of the Twenty Million Bushels of the Cereal Taken Over by English Government, Bulk Is Said to be for Ally

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Winnipeg, Nov. 29.—Twelve millions of bushels of the wheat seized Saturday night by the government was "for Italy," official announcement today showed. The wheat was purchased through England at \$1.04 a bushel.

Ottawa, Canada, Nov. 29.—Canada has under governmental seizure 20,000,000 bushels of first class wheat. This quantity soon will be heading to England and Italy, it is believed, while at the same time 150,000,000 bushels more are in danger of seizure.

The first seizure came late Saturday night and included holdings in elevators from Fort William to the Atlantic coast.

Prevention of skyrocketing of prices is assigned by the government as the reason for thus commandeering this vast supply. Some of it is owned by Americans, but the government has promised to pay a reasonable figure for it.

The Winnipeg wheat exchange met the upset in the wheat situation by declaring there had been no trading today in wheat futures.

Failure of the allies to force the Dardanelles, thus releasing Russia's great store of wheat, is assigned among experts as the reason for the governmental action.

Chicago, Nov. 29.—Wheat opened sharply higher today as a result of Canada's seizure of vast quantities of wheat held in her domain. December was up 1½ at 1.05. May was up 2½ at 1.08½.

Nothing like the expected advances occurred and December closed at 1.05½ and May at 1.08½.

There was a growing feeling among brokers that Canada's action will not have the effect feared.

The market quieted at once after the opening when prices did not soar.

New York, Nov. 29.—Canada's commandeering of wheat was in the interests of England, to prevent a corner in the commodity, a British official told the United Press, asking that his name be withheld.

FARM PROBLEMS ARE SUBJECT OF CONFERENCE

Chicago, Nov. 29.—Practical co-operation in production and distribution of foodstuffs will be sought by a permanent organization which will follow the national conference on marketing and farm credits, opening here tomorrow. Delegates representing more than 1,000,000 farmers will attend, while representatives of other branches of industry also will be present.

Charles Holman, secretary of the conference, said the session would seek to end waste in farm products and clothing. Moreover, he pointed out that the great need at present is organization of farmers' societies. "The present situation," he said, "is responsible for millions of dollars waste annually by reason of lack of facilities for getting their product to market. The tenant problem, as it relates to impoverishment of soil and manhood, will also come up for consideration, while at the same time there will be liberal discussion of the subject of providing suitable rural credits."

SEND FLOTILLA OF TORPEDO BOATS TO MEXICAN COAST

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
San Diego, Nov. 29.—Possibility of serious trouble on the west coast of Mexico was evidenced today when Commander Forman of the Pacific torpedo flotilla received orders to take the mother ship Iris and the speedy Paul Jones, Perry, Preble, Stewart and Whipple, comprising the first division to join the cruiser San Diego in southern waters. The San Diego left Saturday with 1,500 blue-jackets and marines for Topolobampo to join the cruiser Denver. The torpedo boats will coal Wednesday and will probably leave Thursday.

FORD DECLARES PEACE SHIP PLAN IS NOT PRO-GERMAN

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Detroit, Nov. 29.—On a stool in the boiler room of his tractor factory Henry Ford today denounced his peace ship and peace congress plan, angrily denying imputations that his move is pro-German.

"I'm pro-British if this war can be stopped now," he said, "but I am pro-peace before anything else."

"The time to stop the war is now, not only because of its wasteful destructiveness but because the greatest hope for a lasting international peace lies in halting the struggle before there is a decided victory."

Ford is preparing for his trip Saturday and is constantly receiving new acceptances of his invitation. In fact so extensive have these been that he has found it necessary to provide accommodations for the overflow on a vessel sailing from New York December 8. He is confident that he has sufficient assurances from responsible government heads abroad to augur well for the expedition, despite the scoffing tone of the British press toward it.

Reports that former Secretary of State Bryan is heading for here could not be confirmed. It was thought possible, however, that he is planning an immediate conference over the peace project with Ford.

New York, Nov. 29.—Henry Ford telephoned here today that he will arrive Thursday from Detroit ready to join the peace ship party. It was understood that The Hague was selected as the place for meeting of his proposed peace congress, but the plans seemed indefinite.

Rome, Nov. 29.—Austria is endeavoring to conclude a separate peace, according to the Tribuna today.

BULGARS EXPECT ATTACK FROM THE SLAVS AT RUSTCHUK

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Bucharest, Nov. 29.—Civilians have evacuated Rustchuk, Bulgaria, upon orders of the military authorities. This step was taken in preparation for a Russian attack.

Rustchuk is 139 miles northwest of the Bulgarian Black sea port of Varna. It lies on the Danube, opposite the Roumanian town of Giurgevo. This evacuation is taken to mean that Russia, as reported, is prepared to rush her troops across Roumania, and perhaps to effect a junction via Varna. Recent reports indicated Russian warships were again sighted in the Black sea.

DEAD PILED DEEP ABOUT GORITZ

Italians Batter at Austrian Stronghold, Battle Being Marked by Terrific Resistance of the Defenders

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Vienna, Nov. 29.—Headless of losses, the Italians are continuing their grim task of wiping Goritz off the map. To this end they have brought forth fresh, new troops. The attack against the city is stubborn; the Austrian resistance as tenacious. The fortunes of the battle see-saw. The war office today admitted that the Italians, after uninterrupted attempts, succeeded in holding for a time the summit northeast of Oslavia in the Goritz section. Artillery blasts, however, drove them forth.

Many dead bodies litter the territory about the Goritz bridgehead, the Italian objective. One thousand were heaped in one spot alone. Other hundreds mark the struggle throughout the Goritz region.

Near Podgora the Italians gained a temporary hold, only to be hurled back as they were around Oslavia.

Elsewhere along the Austro-Italian line the battle continues, but without the spectacular tenacity and the terrible fatalities and destruction marking the Goritz battle.

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Hough and daughter and Miss Jessie Mastin left on Sunday for a trip to San Francisco.

ROUMANIA IS FRIENDLY TO ALLIES

Expected That Balkan State Will Offer No Objections to Passage of the Russians Through Her Territory

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Paris, Nov. 29.—Germany is making strenuous preparations to resist an expected Russian attack in the Balkans. Indications now are that Russia's next move will be to rush a big army through Roumania to Bulgaria, with or without Roumania's consent.

Press reports, however, tend to show that Roumania is taking a more favorable position toward the entente powers, and there is a growing belief here that she will allow the Russians to march through unmolested.

At the same time Roumania has told Germany she will not open the Danube for further passage of men and arms to Constantinople. Germany, however, does not intend to be thus blocked and her plans call for meeting the Russians at the Bulgarian frontier and flanking them in central and western Roumania.

To do this she must withdraw a considerable force from the border now on the western border of Serbia. Berlin claims, however, that this will be readily accomplished in view of the German belief that the Serbian campaign is at an end now that most of the defenders have made their way across the edge of Serbia into Albania and Montenegro.

MACHINERY OF THE U. S. CONGRESS IS BEING SET IN MOTION FOR SESSION

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Washington, Nov. 29.—Machinery for the sixty-fourth congress got slowly into motion today. Harmony was the watchword in both the democratic senatorial caucus and in the house ways and means committee session to make committee selections. Neither gathering raised the vital question of party policy. The senators adjourned to Wednesday, when the rules committee will present a cloture plan to choke off unlimited debate and Senator Kern will announce the steering committee.

Kern was unanimously chosen caucus chairman and Senator Pittman of Nevada was named secretary, succeeding Senator Saulsbury. Nine out of ten democrats were present. The house started the preliminary work of drafting committees and reached a satisfactory division of places with the republicans.

Selection of president pro tem for the senate went over to Wednesday. Opposition to Senator Clarke of Arkansas is lessening, hence no difficulty is expected in choosing him.

Washington, Nov. 29.—Wheels of the congressional machinery turned up today. Senate democrats in caucus began consideration of organization for the winter. Cloture and revision of the rules promised some fireworks. The house ways and means committee started the job of chalking up committee recommendations.

The senate caucus heard from Senator Owen's committee, which has been considering revision of the rules. The report, it was understood, was a recommendation for a modified cloture. Some senators, however, seemed to resent encroachment on the time-honored right to

talk without hindrance. Despite this, there appeared to be a definite prospect that some means would be adopted where an unending filibuster can not prevail as in the past.

Re-organization of the senate leadership promised to return Senator Kern as majority leader, Senator Lewis as party whip and Senator Clarke of Arkansas as president pro tem.

Committee assignments are likely to be much as in the past. Two republican vacancies exist on the important foreign relations committee by virtue of the retirement of Senators Burton and Root. While there are no democratic vacancies, the committee must assign Senator Phelan of California, Senator Underwood of Alabama and four others to berths as new members.

On the house side there are many committee vacancies. Likewise, there are many new republican members to be taken care of. The democrats will caucus Saturday night. Then the republicans will have an opportunity to present their list of recommendations.

Chairmanships on the foreign relations, military, banking, judiciary, merchant marine, and appropriations committees will remain unchanged. Congress convenes Monday next.

INSURANCE AGENTS AT BOISE IN BATTLE

Boise, Idaho, Nov. 29.—While engaged in an argument over a business controversy, Harvey Sutton, an insurance agent, today shot and seriously wounded W. A. Lewis, also an insurance agent. The shooting occurred in an attorney's office. Sutton walked to the sheriff's office after the shooting and surrendered.

BISHOP SUMNER DEFENDS DANCE OF "RIGHT SORT"

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Portland, Nov. 29.—"I am in favor of making the church the social as well as the religious center, and therefore oppose only 'bad' dances."

This was the statement today of Bishop Walter Taylor Sumner, of the Episcopal church, who Saturday night at Oregon City played a couple of popular pieces on the piano while the parishioners of the St. Paul's Episcopal church danced. The occasion was a parish reception to Rev. T. J. Williams, the new rector of the Oregon City church.

"The best way to do away with the so-called 'bad' dances is to hold good ones in their place," Bishop Sumner continued. "Dances of the right sort are often held in parish houses of the Episcopal church. There is no significance in the fact that I played for the parish members to dance at Oregon City."

Oregon City, Nov. 29.—The young folks are certainly strong for Bishop Sumner of the Episcopal church today. At a reception to Rev. Thomas Williams Saturday night the bishop played popular melodies on the piano while the parish members danced the one-step and other old-time favorites.

PRESIDENT WILL SEND WIRELESS TOAST TO FRISCO

San Francisco, Nov. 29.—While crowds were surging through the gates of the exposition in record-breaking numbers, San Francisco is planning to make closing day the most memorable of the whole exposition period.

President Wilson's toast to the exposition will be received at noon next Saturday by wireless at the exposition, on a stand in front of the Tower of Jewels, and will be read by President Moore. As the stars and stripes are hauled down from the Tower of Jewels warships will roar out their parting salute. Executive heads of departments, representatives of the army and navy, commissioners general of states, foreign nations and Governor Johnson and his staff will participate in the ceremonies.

CAN NOT ASSESS GROSS EARNINGS OF EXPRESS CO.

Washington, Nov. 29.—The supreme court today held unconstitutional the South Dakota method of assessing express companies according to their gross earnings.

TRENCHES CLAIM BOYS AND OLD MEN ON BATTLEFIELD

San Francisco, Nov. 29.—France and Germany are sending old men and boys into the trenches to take the place of hundreds of thousands of young and middle-aged men who have either been killed or crippled since the war began. Rev. Samuel Cranstoun Benson, member of the American Red Cross corps, just returned from the western front, said here today.

The British troops on the firing line are made up largely of Irish, Scotch, Indians and negroes, said Rev. Benson. Some German regiments are made up of boys 15 and 16 years old, while others are made up of old men from 50 to 75 years of age, he said.

AVALON FIRE DESTROYS \$1,500,000

"The Gem of the Pacific" Is Nearly Wiped Out by Flames That Consumed Many Buildings in Noted Island Resort

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Avalon, Catalina Island, Nov. 29 (via Wireless).—The fire that destroyed half of Avalon early this morning was of criminal origin. Sheriff Surmaier expressed this belief today, relating a chain of mysterious circumstances preceding the disastrous conflagration. At 10 o'clock last night the home of Captain J. W. Willy was broken into and set afire by an explosion of some sort. Several other places showed evidence of having been broken into. Surmaier declared an explosion similar to the one which ruined the Willy home occurred shortly after 3 a. m. in the Grand View hotel, starting the fire which spread over the western portion of the city, causing an estimated \$1,500,000 loss.

Avalon, Catalina Island, Cal., Nov. 27 (by Wireless).—Half the town of Avalon, often called "The Gem of the Pacific," was destroyed by fire early today. The wind died down at 9 o'clock and the small fire department, assisted by the boats in the harbor, was able to get the flames under control.

The Hotel Metropole, one of the best known tourist hotels on the Pacific coast, was entirely destroyed. It belonged to the Banning company, which controls the island, and was insured for \$100,000.

One hundred summer cottages and tents were wiped out. The Tuna club, mecca of fishermen from all parts of the world, is a blackened ruin.

The northern part of the business section, lying between the Grand View hotel and the Hotel Metropole, burned. Fire broke out in the Grand View hotel at 3:45 this morning, and in a few minutes the entire western section, mostly composed of light wooden structures, was a mass of flame. The fire swept on and enveloped the three-story Hotel Metropole.

Fire fighters played a steady stream of water from the top of the hill, which is on high ground, and the steamer Hermosa, summoned by wireless, lent all possible aid, but she was considerably hampered by the flames which swept down on the wharf and licked up several small boats in the harbor.

Only the dying down of the wind saved the entire city from destruction.

Several fire fighters were slightly injured, but no fatalities were reported. The fact that it is between seasons at the island resort probably saved many lives.

UNCLE SAM WANTS COUSIN JOHN TO EXPLAIN

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Washington, Nov. 29.—The United States government today directed to England a request for explanation of the British boarding and searching of the American steamer Zealandia at Progreso, Mex., recently.

IDAHO PROGRESSIVE TO GO ON PEACE SHIP

(By United Press Leased Wire.)
Boise, Idaho, Nov. 29.—F. Monroe Smock, progressive national committeeman for Idaho, was today invited by Henry Ford to go on the peace expedition and accepted. He will leave for the east tonight.